

brotherhood action

Brotherhood of St. Laurence

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FAMILY DAY CARE — Helping to Bridge the Gap

'I couldn't find anyone to look after Maria so I posted her back to my mother in Yugoslavia'

Much publicity has been given to the plight of migrant families who for various reasons are unable to keep their children with them in Australia. Lack of child care facilities has been one of the main reasons, and the threatened return of their child has been the pleading story of a number of mothers wanting to place their children with the Brotherhood's Family Day Care service in Fitzroy.

This was the first pilot project of its kind in Australia, and paved the way for a new kind of day care with mothers caring for children under supervision in their own homes. At the end of May 1976 there were 61 similar schemes in Australia.

'Limurru' Group Care Centre, an extension of Family Day Care, was the first subsidised care centre to use non-professional staff and a converted house instead of the usual institutional building.

The 65 children currently in Family Day Care and at

'Limurru' represent 17 nationalities and staff there have learnt smatterings of half a dozen languages, sufficient to make the parents welcome.

In 1971 the Brotherhood published a book, 'Two Worlds', which described migrant children caught in a trap between their family and their school; their struggle with an alien language and alien customs; and the ignorance of their parents who often do not understand these pressures and demands.

Many of these problems are seen in families using Family Day Care, and a recent incident typifies the situation.

Fisal is 2½ years old and has been cared for by Brotherhood childminders, and at 'Limurru', since she was 4 months. Her parents are Turkish and she has two sisters aged 14 and 11. They were one of the first Turkish families to migrate to Australia some 8 years ago.

Gulten, the eldest sister, is in first year high school, and naturally enough, has adopted many Australian habits and customs which are completely unacceptable to her strict Moslem parents.

They communicated their anxiety to their own families in Turkey, with the result that the grandparents have paid the fares for all three children to return to Turkey where they will be brought up in the Moslem tradition. Gulten will stay at home to look after Fisal

while the second daughter goes to school. The parents in the meantime will both work here to save the fares for them to return to Turkey in a year's time, when they will arrange a marriage for Gulten.

Families of other nationalities have the same problem. They say they like Australia and are happy here, but cannot

reconcile the freedom our children have with the traditional world they are used to.

For the families who, despite this, choose to stay, a return trip to their homeland is of prime importance because of their very close family relationships, and many material possessions will be forgone to achieve the trip for the whole family.



Fisal has been with Family Day Care for two years

NAMING CEREMONY AT BROUGHTON

Through the generosity of the late Eileen Keyes, the Brotherhood was able last October to purchase the Frankston Private Hospital. It has been renamed 'Broughton' in honour of her father, William Broughton, and a ceremony was held in July to mark the occasion.

'Broughton' is a modern nursing home, not far from G. K. Tucker Park, Carrum Downs, and has already reduced the problem of long term care for residents who have become totally dependent. Accommodation will also be available to local people, referred by the Mt. Eliza Geriatric Centre.



Left to right: Dr. Malcolm Scott, Matron Betty Matters, Mr. Ken Williams (Manager, G. K. Tucker Park, Carrum Downs), Mr. Neville Brooke, (Director of the Brotherhood's Services for the Aged).

They Help the Brotherhood

St. Laurence Park, Lara, resident Mr. Ernie Gray was postmaster at Lara for nearly 20 years. He owns the shop next door to the Post Office and several years ago offered it to the Brotherhood at \$5 per week rent. Since then a thriving 'Brotherhood Shop' has been operating and in 4 years has raised \$15,000 for St. Laurence Park.

For many years Christ Church Ladies Guild at Lancefield has run a clothing drive for the Brotherhood. This year they really excelled themselves in getting people to empty their cupboards and the Salvage Division has had to send up a large van to collect it all.

Warrandyte Auxiliary will be operating a temporary shop in Warrandyte from 5-19th November. Donations of goods are welcome.

Mr. and Mrs. William Probert of Wild Cherry Cottage, Kilsyth, decided they would like to help the Brotherhood. They held a wine and cheese tasting evening at their home and as a result gave our Ringwood Auxiliary \$260.

POVERTY FOR STUDENTS

'Poverty' has been included as a topic on school syllabuses now for several years. Students are encouraged to do their own research and consequently many requests such as this letter come to the Brotherhood. 'I am in third form at high school and we have to do a

project on poverty in Australia. Could you please send me any information you have.'

We help as much as we can, suggesting reading lists and giving brochures describing the Brotherhood's welfare services. Many of our own publications are used by schools and students are also invited to make use of the reading room in our welfare-oriented library in Fitzroy.

In the last year well over one hundred talks have been given to secondary institutions by speakers from the Brotherhood. Some groups have visited our Fitzroy office where they can learn about our services at first hand.

To help secondary students in particular, a special supplement to the newspaper 'The Learning Exchange' has been compiled by David Griffiths, Social Policy Officer with the Brotherhood. 'Poverty and Inequality' answers the questions we are most often asked: how many

poor are there, how are they poor, who are they and where do they live, why are they poor, what needs to be done and what can you do about it.

'The Learning Exchange' is a monthly community newspaper for information, sharing and learning, based at 430 Waverly Road, East Malvern, phone 211 5413. The poverty supplement is contained in the September issue, price 20 cents, or free single copies can be obtained by sending a stamped addressed foolscap envelope to the Brotherhood's Publications Department, 67 Brunswick Street, Fitzroy. Special rates apply for bulk orders, please write for further details.

COUNTRY FAIR

ST. LAURENCE PARK, LARA — Saturday 6th, November, 12 noon. BBQ, vintage car display, hay rides, good stalls.

NEW APPOINTMENT

Neville Brooke who joined the staff of the Brotherhood in 1958 and since 1969 has been the Director of Services for the Aged, was recently appointed Chairman of the Victorian Council on the Ageing.

The Council is involved in the co-ordination of services for the aged in Victoria. A vital role is to educate those approaching retirement to realize their full potential in the community.

Neville Brooke succeeds Robert Howden, a well-known Melbourne architect who has given sterling services to both the aged and the blind.

YOUTH WORK AWARD

This year the Rosemary Spence Memorial Award for youth work went to Mr. Geoff Rawson.

It was fitting that a person who has contributed so significantly to the development of youth work over the past 10 years should have received recognition.

Mr. Rawson was for some time a Youth Training Officer at Turana. After finishing his course at the Institute of Social Welfare, he worked for the Youth Advisory Council, then the Outer Eastern Regional Council for Social Development (ACCESS) and more recently in the Shire of Berwick.

Rev. Peter Hollingworth, the Chairman of Trustees presented the award at the Annual General Meeting of the Youth Workers Association.

NEW SHOP

A new Brotherhood shop will be open in September at 937 Whitehorse Road, Box Hill.

If you have a spare day a week and would like to help please ring Mrs. Thelma Tuxen at 41 4151.

SERVICE

The annual All Souls Day service will be held at G. K. Tucker Park, Carrum Downs on Tuesday, 2nd November at 10.00 a.m.

The 46th Foundation Festival of the Brotherhood of St. Laurence will be held at Christ Church, South Yarra on Sunday, 12th December, at 7.00 p.m. The preacher will be the Most Reverend Dr. Frank Woods, Archbishop of Melbourne.

Brotherhood friends and supporters are invited to join us at these services.

CHANGES IN THE BOARD

The Reverend R. L. Butters, who has been a member of the Board since September, 1964 has resigned following his departure from Melbourne to take up his new appointment as Chairman of the Australian Board of Missions.

The Reverend G. E. Beaumont, who has joined the Board, was at one time a member of the staff of the Brotherhood.

ARC AGREEMENT

A significant moment in the history of the Brotherhood occurred when the agreement between Brotherhood of St. Laurence and the Action and Resource Centre was

signed on 28th July. This means the first step towards autonomy for this exciting project enabling low-income families to take control of their centre. The Brotherhood will continue to fund the project which will be managed by the families for a further three years.



The Right Revd. James Grant, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Brotherhood, signing the A.R.C. agreement with Mrs. Dot Peillon, Chairperson of the Council.

VILLAGE FAIR

G. K. TUCKER PARK, CARRUM DOWNS — Saturday, 16th October, 10.30 a.m. Pottery, craft, art exhibitions, BBQ lunch. Good stalls and children's entertainments.

MARKET FAIR

MELBOURNE TOWN HALL — Friday, 22nd October, 10.30 a.m. — 3.00 p.m. Home-made cakes and jams, clothing, remnants, books, toys etc.



Left: Mrs. Ruff, Secretary of the Carrum Downs Fair Committee and Mrs. Cann, President, pictured with toys ready for the Fair on October 16.

OUT TO GRASS?

'KEEP OUT — EWES LAMBING' is not usually found posted on the gates of an elderly people's settlement. But it's been necessary at St. Laurence Park, Lara.

Resident Mr. Percy Coates had the idea some 18 months ago of making use of the 30 acres of land at the Park, and making some money for the Park at the same time. They now have 70 Poll Dorset ewes and lambs and all hoping that their stud will soon be registered. As well as keeping the grounds in order they're a good talking point for the residents.



Shearer Kevin Parsons, also maintenance foreman at St. Laurence Park, is helped by Stud manager Mr. Percy Coates, Mr. Ernie Bishop, both Park residents, and Mr. Vern Parsons.



Some of the St. Laurence Park flock with Hume Court hostel for frail aged in the background.

brotherhood gift

Send to Brotherhood of St Laurence, 67 Brunswick Street, Fitzroy, 3065.

Donations of \$2 and over to the Brotherhood are deductible for Income Tax purposes.

I enclose my gift of \$ _____ towards

Family Services

G. K. Tucker Park,
Carrum Downs

Services for the Aged

St Laurence Park, Lara

Social Issues and Research

General

Name (Mr. Mrs. Miss)

Address

Postcode

----- CUT OUT AND MAIL YOUR GIFT

Brotherhood of
St Laurence,

Head Office,
67 Brunswick Street,
Fitzroy, 3065.
Telephone: 41 4151

Coolibah Centre and
Accommodation Service, Fitzroy;
Carinya Nursing Home, Box Hill;
G. K. Tucker Park Settlement
for the Active Elderly,
Carrum Downs;
St. Laurence Park Settlement for
the Active Elderly, Lara;
Keble Court Flats, North Fitzroy.

Family Centre Fitzroy;
Family Day Care, Fitzroy;
Material Aid Service, Fitzroy;

Research and Social Issues
Department, Fitzroy;

Laurence Industries Sheltered
Workshop, West Heidelberg.

Salvage Division,
240 Lygon Street, Brunswick.
For Collections:
Telephone: 387 4333.